

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES, INC.



BOX 1224

WOLFEBORO, NH 03894

(603) 569-5095

February 4, 1991

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric:

In a recent conversation with Harry X Boosel he mentioned that a number of years ago he sent to you a transcript of a statement concerning commemorative coins - this would have been in the 1930s - that he gave to a congressman in Washington, who subsequently had it printed in "The Congregational Record." I wonder if it would be possible to purchase from you a Xerox copy of this statement, together with a notation as to which issue of the "Congressional Record" in which it appeared.

I am putting the finishing touches on a book on United States commemorative coins, and a significant section of the book deals with the commemorative situation of the 1930s. It would be interesting to include what Harry had to say, but Harry himself kept no copy.

Eric, if you have any other unpublished information concerning commemoratives I would be happy to consider anything else for inclusion as well. Just let me know.

Thank you for the possibility of your help.

Best personal regards,

Q. David Bowers

QDB/mkv

Copy to:
Harry X Boosel

Your friends in the rare coin business

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Q. David Bowers
Box 1224
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

February 8, 1991

Dear Dave:

It was a pleasure to have numismatic files in which I can locate things you request. I do not have files in the quantity your firm does and thus I keep them while you have to throw some of your files away.

Harry Boosel was nice enough to send me fascinating U.S. commemorative coin material and I enclose photocopies of it. It demonstrates what was then considered political influence peddling and fraud. Today that might be considered "de minimus".

I am always glad to hear from you and your team.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

cc: Harry X. Boosel

Protest against the misuse, prolific issuance, and maldistribution of United States Commemorative Half-Dollars.

*

In 1926 the Oregon Trail Memorial half-dollar was authorized for a coinage not to exceed 6 000 000 pieces. In the same year there were coined first 48 000 pieces from Philadelphia, and then 100 000 pieces from San Francisco.

Out of the 48 000 Philadelphia pieces, 17 000 were remelted. In 1928, the Oregon Trail Commission asked that there be coined at the San Francisco mint 50 000 more pieces. The commission, however failed to call for them, and they were left in the mint until April of 1933! Undoubtedly it was because of this, that Hoover, then president of the United States, vetoed all coin bills presented.

At that time in 1933, 44 000 of the 50 000 were remelted, leaving a limited issue of only 6 000. These were offered for sale by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company of New York, who at the same time advertised "Sole Distributors of the Oregon Trail Commemorative Half-Dollars" At the same time, this company announced that there would be available 5 250 1933 Denver halves. One year later, in September of 1934, this company announced 7 000 Denver 1934 coins.

In April of 1936, this same company announced 5 000 S Mint halves, saying at the same time that there would be no more of these from that mint in that year. Later 10 000 were struck at Philadelphia, and these were not advertised publicly, but to their customers by mail.

In February this year, there were coined 12 000 Denver mint, and it seems that the commission finally woke up to the fact that they themselves could make some money off the poor collector. They are distributing them themselves.

Thus we have 8 issues in 11 years, the only difference being the date and mint mark.

Figures follow:

Year	No.Coined	Mint	Remelted	Left	Orig.Price	Approx. Price now
1926	48 000	Phil	17 000	31 000	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.35
1926	100 000	San Fran	- -	100 000	1.00	1.35
1928	50 000	" "	44 000	6 000	2.00	5.25
1933	5 250	Denver	- -	5 250	1.50	9.75
1934	7 000	"		7 000	2.00	5.00
1936	5 000	San Franc		5 000	1.65	9.00
1936	10 000	Phil		10 000	1.65	4.50
1937	12 000	Denver		12 000	1.60	1.60
	<u>238 250</u>		<u>61 000</u>	<u>176 250</u>	<u>\$12.40</u>	<u>\$37.80</u>

The 1937 half is still being distributed by the commission.

At the rate these coins are being minted, we will have Oregon Trail halves for the next 300 years!

*

Last year was the Texas Centennial (1936) In 1934 their bill was passed authorizing the issuance of 1 500 000 pieces. In that year, 1934, they had coined at Philadelphia, 205 000 pieces. No doubt they are still obtainable at the dommission. In 1935 they had coined at each of the three mints, 10 000. They raised the price from \$1.00 to \$1.50. Again in 1936, 10 000 from each mint. A notice has just appeared in a local paper that they expect to have their 1937 coins available shortly.

Last year, they had introduced a bill to authorize a series of new reverses not to exdeed five! This would have meant 15 new coins from the same commission.. Fortunately the bill was killed in the House.

Figures follow:

Coined	Year	Mint	Original Price	Approx. Price Now
205 000	1934	Phil	1.00	\$ 1.10
10 000	1935	Phil	1.50	1.85
10 000	1935	San Fran	1.50	1.85
10 000	1935	Denver	1.50	1.85
10 000	1936	Phil	1.50	1.75
10 000	1936	San Fran	1.50	1.75
10 000	1936	Denver	1.50	1.75
<u>265 000</u>			<u>10.00</u>	<u>11.90</u>

Total coined to date is 265 000 out of an authorized 1 500 000!

*

Next is the most flagrant violator: The Daniel Boone Bicentennial. Authorized for 600 000 in 1934. That year they had coined 10 000 at Philadelphia. In 1935, 10 000 from Philadelphia and 5 000 from each of the branch mints.

It was about this time that the groaning and muttering of the collectors, who were footing the bill, began to be heard. They protested that the coins were being issued from year to year with no change except date and mint. This commission very magnanimously had a bill put up to authorize the addition of a small 1934 to the coins being struck in 1935. The bill passed and became a law. In that same year, they had 10 000 struck from the Phil mint.

Then Lo and Behold! Mr Dunn, the distributor of this half-dollar took it upon himself to issue what he termed a " Bonus Issue " 2 000 from each of the western mints. He claimed these were only for those who had stuck with him, and had ordered all those previous to this set. Even that wouldn't have been so bad, if they were all distributed. I defy this distributor to prove a list of 2 000 names of people who got these sets.

In December of that year he claims to have assigned all the entire issue, yet there is a case of distribution late in April of the next year from him! In July of 1936, this same distributor offered a set of these rare coins to anyone who would purchase 500 of the 1936 Philadelphia coins for \$5.10 express collect. In the same ad he says, " From some sets- as far as they go- made available to the Daniel Boone Bi-Centennial Commission approved by Congress " Evidently he was trying to deceive the collectors into believing

that more had been coined.

In 1936 there were coined at Philadelphia 10 000, and then 5 000 from each of the branch mints. Now he advertises (pardon me, his wife advertises) 15 000 1937 coins available from Phil.

Late in 1935, we have Mr Dunn's word that he wanted to sell only 300 000 more coins, and now a statement that they had expected to continue for five years!

All this with their Bi-Centennial in 1934 !

Figures follow:

Coined	Year	Mint	Orig.Price	Present Approx.Price
10 000	1934	Phil	\$ 1.80 +	\$ 3.50
10 000	1935	"	1.10	3.00
5 000	1935	San Fran	1.60 +	5.00
5 000	1935	Denver	1.60 +	5.00
10 000	1935-34	Philad	1.10	2.75
2 000	1935-34	San Franc	} 3.70 Pair	65.00
2 000	1935-34	Denver		
12 000	1936-34	Philad	1.10	1.35
5 000	1936-34	Denver	1.60	5.00
5 000	1936-34	San Fran	1.60	5.00
15 000	1937-34	Philad	1.60	1.60
<hr/>			<hr/>	
81 000			\$ 16.60	\$ 97.15

A total of 11 coins, the only difference being the date and mint.

*

Next comes Arkansas. They got a late start, but are evidently making up for lost time. Authorized for 500 000 in 1935. Coined in Philadelphia first 10 000. Then they began to get more orders than they had coins. They consulted Maehl, a coin dealer of Ft Worth, Tex. Acting on his advice, they had coined an additional 3 600 at Philad. and 5 500 at each of the branch mints. This dealer later admits having practically complete control of these branch minted coins. These coins were originally sold by the commission at \$1.00 , but very few collectors got the branch mint coins. This dealer immediately raised the price to \$2.75 each.

In 1936 they had coined 10 000 from each of the mints. Then it seems they had some difficulty in selling them all, according to the wording of their ads, and so they raised their price to \$2 from \$1.50. After these were coined, they had introduced a bill into Congress to authorize three new reverses, which would have meant nine more coins. Fortunately it was amended to only one new reverse. This is the familiar Joe Robinson half-

25 000 of these were coined, and distributed only by Stack's, a New York Dealer who set the price at \$1.85 + postage, whereas the commission only charged \$1.50.

And now, notices are being sent out by this dealer that they will have shortly a 5 000 set issue from the 3 mints of 1937.

AND THEY HAVE SET THE PRICE AT \$8.75 A SET OF THREE COINS!

At the same time they say "Exclusive distributors of the Arkansas Half-dollars. Figures follow:

Year	Coined	Mint	Orig. Price	Present Approx Price
1935	13 000	Philadel	1.00	\$ 2.75
1935	5 500	San Fran	1.00	5.00
1935	5 500	Denver	1.00	5.00
1936	10 000	Philadel	1.50	1.95
1936	10 000	Denver	1.50	1.95
1936	10 000	San Fran	1.50	1.95
1936 (Joe Robt)	25 000	Philadelphia	1.85	3.00 to \$4
1937	5 000	Phil)) 8.75 a set	Not yet distributed.
1937	5 000	Denver		
1937	5 000	San Fran		
	<u>94 000</u>		\$9.35	\$ 21.60

Originally authorized for 500 000 !

Thus in the above mentioned cases, instead of only 4 coins, we have 36 , and only 667 250 out of an authorized 8 650 000! And nothing to prevent these commissions from getting them from year to year.

Now a few words about small issues and maldistribution.

In 1935 a Hudson New York issue was authorized for 10 000 pieces. Coined in June 1935, delivered to the commission on June 28th, and all sold out July 2nd with their ad appearing about July 6th! They were sold to dealers in large blocs, and it is whispered that one New York dealer, Gutttag, got the most of them. The price was immediately raised by these dealers.

Original price \$1.00 Present Approx price \$7.50

*

Providence Rhode Island- Authorized coinage 50 000. Surely plenty for all collectors- Yet they were never advertised for sale by the original commission. There was a description of the coin published in February of 1936. Coincident with this description was an ad from Grant's Hobby Shop in Providence offering to secure these coins for the collectors at \$1.50, although those collectors who had already written to the commission were informed that they would be available at \$1.00 each.

The commission began accepting money from collectors as early as November of 1935. They were coined : 20 000 from Phil and 15 000 from each of the branch mints.

Then in April came the news. Sold out in six hours! The astonishing part of it is this: In the entire State of Rhode Island there were only 5 members of the American Numismatic Association which is the largest organization of coincollectors in the U.S.

Where did all these coins go? This Providence dealer immediately raised his price to \$7.50 a set, and the next month raised it to \$9.1 He admitted securing 11 500 for orders that he had, then later offered 50 sets to trade and 25 to sell, and I have a letter over his signature

wherein he admits selling another 500 sets to dealers.

Here is what happened to the collectors. The commission accepted their money, and used it to lift the issue from the mint. Then after all were sold, sent most collectors back their money saying that they had sold them all to natives, BUT THE MONEY SENT BACK WAS NOT THE ORIGINAL MONEY ORDERS AND CHECKS SENT IN, BUT THE CHECKS FROM THE COMMISSION DRAWN ON THE PROVIDENCE NATIONAL BANK !

I have in my possession a letter wherin this commission admits selling this dealer a greater number than was allotted to others, (what other ?) due to the fear that they would be unable to sell all 50 000. This letter clearly shows that they knew very little about distributing commemorative half-dollars.

In December, this Providence dealer criticizes the Columbia S C people for maldistributing a small issue.

This Columbia issue was coined in November to celebrate a one day exposition held in the previous January!

Providence sets	Original Price	\$3.00	Now	\$7.00
Columbia sets	Original Price	\$6.45	Now	\$15.00

*

Last year Cincinnati had coined 5 000- sets from each mint, 15 000 coins in all. Well distributed, but why such a small issue. Someone was bound to be left out. And now seeing that last year's reaped such a wonderful harvest from the poor collectors, they want more (See H R #'s 2688 + 3159 1st session 75th Congress).

D *

The SanDiego issue was authorized for 250 000 in 1935.

Here's what they did:	1935 S Mint	Coined 250 000	Melted 180 000
	1936 D Mint	Coined 180 000	Melted 150 000

And not only that, but they've changed their prices three times. Originally sold at \$1.50, the commission is now selling them at \$3 !

*

We come now to a part that seems to me to be pathetic! The Norfolk people are advertising their coins for sale pending the passing of their coin bill, and to date it hasn't even passed the House Committee! Also the Fort Peck Dam people are advertising, and their bill hasn't passed either committee yet!

*

In conclusion, most collectors do not want this series discontinued, but merely want a drastic moderation in the number, size and distribution of them. However it would be far better to discontinue them entirely than to allow a deluge like last year again!

*

Below is a list of all commemorative bills proposed to date:

HR		HR	
78	Steinmetz	5183	LaSalle
79	Constitution	5185	Mercer County
82	Antietam	5574	Tobacco in Vir.
1614	Wilkinsburg	5634	Cleveland
1953	Norfolk	5681	Great Lakes
1975	Logan Count.	5723	Sunrise service Wichita Mt.
2245	Montgomery		
2272	N W Territory	S	
2290	Toledo	4	Norfolk (HR 1953)
2504	New York	102	Antietam (H R 82)
2688	Cincinnati	169	Bonneville (HR 3489)
2734	de Coronado	321	de Coronado (HR 2734)
3159	Cincinnati	672	Constitution z(H R 79)
3489	Bonneville	712	Morristown
3672	Port Chester	839	International Boundary
3864	U of Louisville	853	Fort Peck Dam
3899	Mecklenberg	1217	Cleveland (HR 5634)
4087	San Fran Oak	1268	Port Chester (HR 3672)
4184	Clinton NY	1373	Michigan (HR 4189)
4189	Michigan	1394	Alamo (HR 4480)
4480	Alamo	1628	To establish a commission
4640	N W Territory	1820	Chicago
4641	Easton	1846	San Fran Oak (HR 4087)
4649	Miss.Flood Relf.	1895	Medals in lieu of coins
4657	Berwick Pa	1896	York Coun

PROHIBITING ISSUANCE AND COINAGE OF CERTAIN
COMMEMORATIVE COINS

JULY 28, 1937.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and
Measures, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 8036]

The Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8036) prohibiting the issuance and coinage of certain commemorative coins, and for other purposes, having considered same, authorize me to report the bill to the House with the recommendation that the bill be passed.

The purpose of this bill is to stop a racket in the issuance of commemorative coins that has developed in recent years.

This bill will, from and after the date of its enactment, prohibit the further coinage and issuance of such coins under any act of Congress enacted prior to the Seventy-fifth Congress, with one exception. I have been advised that coins have been ordered and issued under every such authorizing act. The bill is worded so as not to affect those bills which recently were passed by the present Congress. In all fairness to the sponsors of those measures, it is the committee's feeling that they should be afforded an opportunity to place their orders and receive their coins. In any event, those acts themselves contain express limitations as to time, that is, they expire 1 year from the date of their enactment.

The Texas Centennial is still being celebrated and is going on for another year according to the reports that the committee has received. For that reason the committee felt that it would be justified in permitting the coinage of a commemorative coin during 1938.

The President of the United States, in several communications to the Congress has deplored the abuses and other ill effects resulting from the coinage of commemorative coins, and strongly recommended the consideration of legislation which would authorize the coinage of medals in lieu of coins, thus preserving inviolate the coinage system of the United States.

2 PROHIBITING ISSUE OF CERTAIN COMMEMORATIVE COINS

Congress, many years ago, being cognizant of the dangers and confusion which flow from a multiplicity of designs in our coins, wisely enacted section 3510 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which reads as follows:

* * * no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub for the same coin. * * *

With the flood of commemorative-coin authorizations, this statute, while still on the books, has in recent years been more honored in the breach than in the observance. It is believed that in the enactment of section 3510, Congress enunciated a wise general public policy. Adherence to such a policy would have prevented the present abuses which result from numerous authorizations for the coinage of commemorative coins. The effect of such authorizations has been to encourage trafficking in such issues for private profit; to increase possibilities of counterfeiting, and, in general, to detract from the fundamental purpose for which money is issued, namely, to provide a medium of exchange.

From 1892, when the first issue of commemorative new-design half dollars was approved, through 1928, a period of 36 years, 18 new-design half dollars were authorized. From 1934 to 1936, inclusive, a period of 3 years, 26 new half-dollar coins were authorized. In other words, in the last 3 years we passed more commemorative coin bills than during the entire 36-year period from 1892 through 1928. Surely, this must end sometime, and I think you will agree that that time has arrived.

Besides orders for new coins recently approved, continuing orders are received at the mints for coins authorized as far back as 10 years ago—mind you, coins are still being ordered under acts passed over 10 years ago. Under the terms of an act passed in 1926 (act of May 17, 1926, sec. 3, 44 Stat. 559), which authorized the issue of 6,000,000 pieces, the mint is required to fill orders from the interested organization or, as a matter of fact, from a coin dealer, in any amount, large or small, and they may be called for at any time, until this vast quantity is absorbed or until the act is repealed or suspended. Annual orders of coins in situations like this naturally are small, since the fewer coins minted in a given year, the higher the price may go. The change of date each year or, in fact, the slightest change gives the coins a new status to collectors and dealers. This also applies to the minting of the same coin at each mint.

In 1933 one act (act of June 15, 1933, 48 Stat. 149) authorized the coinage of 1,500,000 pieces; in 1934 another (act of May 26, 1934, 48 Stat. 807) authorized the issue of 600,000 pieces; another act passed in 1934 (May 14, 1934, 48 Stat. 776) authorized the issue of 500,000 pieces; and a second act in 1936 for the same organization and commemorative purpose (June 26, 1936, 49 Stat. 1981) authorized an additional coinage of not less than 25,000 nor more than 50,000 pieces with the change of design on one side. One act passed in 1936 (act of May 15, 1936, 49 Stat. 1277) provides that the interested organization shall not take less than 25,000 pieces, leaving the case open for any number above that amount. Consequently, the organization can demand delivery of any number that it can pay for, provided that not less than 25,000 be ordered. It can issue coins forever unless this law is repealed.

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By the act of May 3, 1935 (49 Stat. 174), a new coin was authorized for an exposition. The act authorized 250,000 pieces and the organization requested the entire number. At the close of the exposition 180,000 pieces, bearing date of 1935, were returned to the mint to be melted and additional legislation was enacted (act of May 6, 1936, 49 Stat. 1262) permitting the recoinage of the 180,000 pieces, bearing date of 1936.

The most casual review of these conditions will indicate the amount of special work imposed upon the already overburdened mints. Such special work diverts the use of machinery, manpower, and consumable supplies from regular channels of operation, when every facility of the mints is needed to meet the demands of the business of this country. Special commemorative orders affect every department of the mints from the engraving department, including intricate and exacting engraving and die cutting, down to the delivery department. Last year the mint had to displace regular coinage while the necessary facilities were being diverted to the manufacture of 734,464 pieces of this special-interest coinage. The total coinage in 1926 amounted to about 315,000,000 pieces; coinage in 1936 amounted to about 723,000,000 pieces. The country's demands for coinage are being attempted to be met with the same number of mints now that were in use 27 years ago. It is frequently necessary, therefore, to operate the mints on a 24-hour basis for long periods.

Another disturbing feature of this whole policy, which had developed in the last 2 years, is the appalling extent to which the coins have been exploited for private gain, when coins are intended to be made on Government account. One set of commemorative coins which the wording of the act permitted to be made at each mint, consisted of five types, all made in 1935; one from each mint, two bearing double dates and separate mint marks. This set of five pieces is advertised by a dealer for \$93 (five 50-cent pieces worth the face value of \$2.50). Another dealer offers two of these coins for \$100. Still another issue limited by the act to 15,000 pieces with provision for having them made at "the mints" is advertised at \$45 for three 50-cent pieces.

In all cases the coins are delivered by the mint to the agent named in the act. Practice on the part of the interested organizations appears to have grown up of delivering a large number of such coins to dealers for disposal to the public. There is no control over the charge which dealers may make. It is conceded that individuals may pay what they please for a coin, but attention is called to the fact that it is the intention of Congress when the coins are authorized that the proceeds of the sale of such coins at a reasonable profit shall be applied to the cost of the celebration which they are intended to memorialize. When coins are gathered up by dealers and offered at such absurd premiums, the profits do not go to the organization but to individual merchants.

No country in the world permits such abuse of its coinage as has been permitted in this country. The practice of issuing commemorative coins is so entrenched that determined resistance seems called for. Every time the importunities of an organization for special coins are yielded to, the defense against the whole pernicious policy is weakened.

Upon a vigorous appeal having been made in 1927 before the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, when the bill was pending for the issue of the Bennington coin, the committee agreed to cooperate

4 PROHIBITING ISSUE OF CERTAIN COMMEMORATIVE COINS

with the Treasury in discouraging the issue of special coins. The committee went on record, in its report on the Bennington coin, in the following terms:

The committee desires at this time to go on record as not favoring legislation of this class because of the great number of bills introduced to commemorate events of local and not national interest and because such quantities of the coins so authorized have had to be taken back by the Government, melted, and reminted.

OREGON TRAIL COINS

In 1926 the Oregon Trail memorial half dollar was authorized for a coinage not to exceed 6,000,000 pieces. In the same year there were coined first 48,000 pieces from the Philadelphia Mint and then 100,000 pieces from the San Francisco Mint. Being coined at different mints they are classed as separate coins by coin collectors.

Out of the 48,000 Philadelphia pieces, 17,000 were remelted. In 1928, the Oregon Trail Commission asked that there be coined at the San Francisco Mint 50,000 more pieces. The commission, however, failed to call for them, and they were left in the mint until April of 1933. Undoubtedly it was because of this, that Mr. Hoover, then President of the United States, vetoed all coin bills presented. The President could veto bills, but he could not repeal this law and more were issued.

At that time, in 1933, 44,000 of the 50,000 were remelted, leaving a limited issue of only 6,000. These were offered for sale by a coin and stamp distributor of New York, who at the same time advertised "Sole distributors of the Oregon Trail commemorative half dollars." At the same time, this company announced that there would be available 5,250, 1933 Denver Mint half dollars. One year later, in September of 1934, this company announced 7,000 Denver Mint 1934 coins.

In April of 1936 this same company announced 5,000 San Francisco Mint half dollars, saying then there would be no more from that mint in that year. Later 10,000 were issued at the Philadelphia Mint, and these were not advertised publicly but to their customers by mail.

In February this year there were coined 12,000 at the Denver Mint, and it seems that the commission finally woke up to the fact that they themselves could make some money off the poor coin collector. They are distributing them themselves.

Thus we have eight issues in 11 years, all commemorating the Oregon Trail, the only difference being the date and mint mark, but coin collectors must buy all. Here are the issues:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Remelted	Left	Original price	Price now
1926	48,000	Philadelphia	17,000	31,000	\$1.00	\$1.35
1926	100,000	San Francisco		100,000	1.00	1.35
1928	50,000	do	44,000	6,000	2.00	5.25
1933	5,250	Denver		5,250	1.50	9.75
1934	7,000	do		7,000	2.00	5.00
1936	5,000	San Francisco		5,000	1.65	9.00
1936	10,000	Philadelphia		10,000	1.65	4.50
1937	12,000	Denver		12,000	1.60	1.60
	237,250		61,000	176,250	12.40	37.80

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d 5,000 San Francisco more from that mint Philadelphia Mint, and customers by mail.

2,000 at the Denver woke up to the fact off the poor coin col-

commemorating the e and mint mark, but es:

	Left	Original price	Price now
0	31,000	\$1.00	\$1.35
0	100,000	1.00	1.35
0	6,000	2.00	5.25
0	5,250	1.50	9.75
0	7,000	2.00	5.00
0	5,000	1.65	9.00
0	10,000	1.65	4.50
0	12,000	1.60	1.60
0	176,250	12.40	37.80

The 1937 half dollar is still being distributed by the commission. At the rate these coins are being minted, we will have Oregon Trail coins for the next 300 years, unless Congress repeals this law.

THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL

The Texas Centennial was held in 1936 but has been continued this year. In 1934 their bill was passed authorizing the issuance of 1,500,000 pieces. In that year, they had coined at Philadelphia, 205,000 pieces. No doubt they are still obtainable from the commission. In 1935 they had coined at each of the three mints, 10,000. The small number raised the price from \$1 to \$1.50. Again in 1936, 10,000 from each mint. A notice has just appeared in a local paper that they expect to have their 1937 coins available shortly.

The coins can be issued until the full 1,500,000 pieces are exhausted unless the law is repealed. Here are the issues so far for the Texas Centennial:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Price now
1934	205,000	Philadelphia	\$1.00	\$1.10
1935	10,000	do.	1.50	1.85
1935	10,000	San Francisco	1.50	1.85
1935	10,000	Denver	1.50	1.85
1936	10,000	Philadelphia	1.50	1.75
1936	10,000	San Francisco	1.50	1.75
1936	10,000	Denver	1.50	1.75
1937	8,000	Philadelphia		
1937	8,000	San Francisco		
1937	8,000	Denver		
	289,000		10.00	11.90

The total coined to date is 289,000 out of an authorized 1,500,000. The price on the 1937 coins is not available as they have not been distributed, but will be in a few weeks.

It is but proper to state that the money raised from the sale of commemorative coins under the Texas act is being used entirely for the purpose of constructing a memorial building on the grounds of the Texas University. This building is partly completed, \$300,000 of the amount appropriated by Congress to celebrate the centennial being used to start the structure. The board of regents of the university supervise the distribution of the coins.

THE DANIEL BOONE BICENTENNIAL

This law has developed into a racket, the extent of which no one dreamed of. The Daniel Boone Bicentennial Act authorized 600,000 pieces in 1934. That year they coined 10,000 at the Philadelphia Mint. In 1935, 10,000 from the Philadelphia Mint and 5,000 from each of the other mints. Keep in mind each half dollar has a special value—the smaller the issue the greater the graft.

It was about this time that the groaning and muttering of the coin collectors, who were footing the bill, began to be heard. They protested that the coins were being issued from year to year with no change except date and mint. In other words, they did not even go to the expense in changing the design, which would have been the honorable thing to do at least, but they simply changed the date,

6 PROHIBITING ISSUE OF CERTAIN COMMEMORATIVE COINS

pocketing the cost of the new design. Was it any reason the coin collectors complained?

Mr. Dunn, the distributor of this Daniel Boone half dollar, took it upon himself to issue what he termed a "bonus issue" of 2,000 from each of the western mints. He claimed these were only for those who had stuck with him, by ordering all of the previous issues. But the worst is yet to come. The coins were issued but not all distributed. Coin collectors have always defied this distributor to produce a list of 2,000 names of the people who got these sets. I have heard the cost of this issue is now about \$100.

In December of 1934 Mr. Dunn claims to have assigned all the entire issue, yet there is a case of distribution late in April of the next year by him. In July of 1936 this same distributor offered a set of these rare coins to anyone who would purchase 500 of the 1936 Philadelphia coins for \$510, express collect. In the same advertisement he says, "From some sets—as far as they go—made available to the Daniel Boone Bicentennial Commission approved by Congress." Evidently he was trying to deceive the collectors into believing that more had been coined.

In 1936 there were coined at Philadelphia 10,000, and then 5,000 from each of the branch mints. Now Mrs. Dunn, his wife, advertises 15,000 1937 coins from the Philadelphia Mint.

Late in 1935, we have Mr. Dunn's word that he wanted to sell only 300,000 more coins, and now it is stated they expect to continue for 5 years. My bill will end his racket.

The issues under this act follow:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Present approximate price
1934.....	10,000	Philadelphia.....	\$1.60+	\$3.50
1935.....	10,000	do.....	1.10	3.00
1935.....	5,000	San Francisco.....	1.60+	5.00
1935.....	5,000	Denver.....	1.60+	5.00
1935-34.....	10,000	Philadelphia.....	1.10	2.75
1935-34.....	2,000	San Francisco.....	3.70	65.00
1935-34.....	2,000	Denver.....	3.70	65.00
1936-34.....	12,000	Philadelphia.....	1.10	1.35
1936-34.....	5,000	Denver.....	1.60	5.00
1936-34.....	5,000	San Francisco.....	1.60	5.00
1937-34.....	7,500	Philadelphia.....	1.60	2.50
1937-34.....	3,750	Denver.....	1.60	7.50
1937-34.....	7,500	San Francisco.....	1.60	5.50
	84,750		19.80	176.65

A total of 13 coins, the only difference being the date and mint. Remember coin collectors are like stamp collectors, they must buy each issue.

THE ARKANSAS COINS

Arkansas secured a late start, but they are evidently making up for lost time. The act authorized 500,000 in 1935. The first were coined at the Philadelphia Mint, 10,000. Then they began to get more orders than they had coins. I understand they consulted a coin dealer and acting on his advice, coined an additional 3,000 at the Philadelphia Mint and 5,500 at each of the branch mints. This dealer later admits having practically complete control of the branch minted coins. These coins were originally sold by the commission at \$1, but very few

PROHIBITING ISSUE

collectors got the branch—the price to \$2.75 each.

In 1936 they coined 10 they had some difficulty of their advertisements, a \$2. After these were coin introduced which would be amended to only one

Twenty-five thousand by a New York dealer who the commission only charged out by this same dealer from the three mints of 1 At the same time this coin the Arkansas half dollars

The coins so far issued

Year
1935.....
1935.....
1935.....
1936.....
1936.....
1936.....
1936 (Joe Robt).....
1937.....
1937.....
1937.....

The authorization is that number is minted up

Thus in the above-m were issued and only 667 is nothing to prevent them unless we repeal the laws racket continue? The the celebrations have be prevent the turning over who are working the racket

SMALL ISS

In 1935 a Hudson, N Coined in June 1935, d all sold out July 2 with They were sold to dealer one New York dealer se immediately raised by the present price, \$7.50.

Providence, R. I., au appears plenty for all w vertised for sale by the tion of the coin publish was an advertisement b

Was it any reason the coin
Daniel Boone half dollar, took
a "bonus issue" of 2,000
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as they go—made available
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ceive the collectors into be-
phia 10,000, and then 5,000
s. Dunn, his wife, advertises
Mint.
l that he wanted to sell only
they expect to continue for

mint	Original price	Present approximate price
-----	\$1.60+	\$3.50
-----	1.10	3.00
-----	1.60+	5.00
-----	1.60+	5.00
-----	1.10	2.75
-----	3.70	65.00
-----	3.70	65.00
-----	1.10	1.35
-----	1.60	5.00
-----	1.60	5.00
-----	1.60	2.50
-----	1.60	7.50
-----	1.60	5.50
-----	19.80	176.65

being the date and mint.
collectors, they must buy
COINS

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1935. The first were coined
they began to get more orders
consulted a coin dealer and
al 3,000 at the Philadelphia
ts. This dealer later admits
the branch minted coins.
mission at \$1, but very few

collectors got the branch-mint coins. The dealer immediately raised the price to \$2.75 each.

In 1936 they coined 10,000 from each of the mints. Then it seems they had some difficulty in selling them all, according to the wording of their advertisements, and so they reduced their price to \$1.50 from \$2. After these were coined, a bill to authorize three new reverses was introduced which would have meant nine more coins. Fortunately it was amended to only one new reverse.

Twenty-five thousand of these were coined, and distributed only by a New York dealer who set the price at \$1.85 plus postage, whereas the commission only charged \$1.50. And now, notices are being sent out by this same dealer that they will have shortly a 5,000 set issue from the three mints of 1937. And they have set the price at \$8.75. At the same time this coin dealer advertises "Exclusive distributors of the Arkansas half dollars."

The coins so far issued for Arkansas follow:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Present approximate price
1935.....	13,000	Philadelphia.....	\$1.00	\$2.75
1935.....	5,500	San Francisco.....	1.00	5.00
1935.....	5,500	Denver.....	1.00	5.00
1936.....	10,000	Philadelphia.....	1.50	1.95
1936.....	10,000	Denver.....	1.50	1.95
1936.....	10,000	San Francisco.....	1.50	1.95
1936 (Joe Robt).....	25,000	Philadelphia.....	1.85	3.50
1937.....	5,000	do.....	4.40	4.40
1937.....	5,000	Denver.....	4.40	4.40
1937.....	5,000	San Francisco.....	9.35	21.60
-----	94,000	-----	-----	-----

The authorization is for 500,000 coins and they can go on until that number is minted unless we repeal the law.

Thus in the above-mentioned cases, instead of only 4 coins, 36 were issued and only 667,250 out of an authorized 8,650,000. There is nothing to prevent them from issuing the balance of nearly 8,000,000 unless we repeal the laws. Is Congress going to sit quiet and let this racket continue? The commissions are probably out of existence, the celebrations have been held, but there was nothing in the law to prevent the turning over of the additional number to coin dealers who are working the racket and reaping a harvest.

SMALL ISSUES AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION

In 1935 a Hudson, N. Y., issue was authorized for 10,000 pieces. Coined in June 1935, delivered to the commission on June 28, and all sold out July 2 with their advertisement appearing about July 6. They were sold to dealers in large blocks, and it is whispered that one New York dealer secured the most of them. The price was immediately raised by these dealers. The original price was \$1; the present price, \$7.50.

Providence, R. I., authorized the coinage of 50,000. Surely this appears plenty for all who wanted them. Yet they were never advertised for sale by the original commission. There was a description of the coin published in February of 1936. At the time there was an advertisement by a shop in Providence offering to secure the

8 PROHIBITING ISSUE OF CERTAIN COMMEMORATIVE COINS

coins for the collectors at \$1.50, although the collectors who had already written to the commission were informed that they would be available at \$1 each.

The commission began accepting money from collectors as early as November of 1935. They coined 20,000 from the Philadelphia Mint and 15,000 from each of the branch mints.

Then in April it was announced they had sold out in 6 hours. The astonishing part of it is in the entire State of Rhode Island there were only five members of the American Numismatic Association, which is the largest organization of coin collectors in the United States.

Where did all the coins go? This Providence dealer immediately raised his price to \$7.50 a set, and the next month raised it to \$9. He admitted securing 11,500 for orders that he had, then later offered 50 sets to trade and 25 to sell, and I have seen a letter over his signature wherein he admits selling another 500 sets to dealers. A set is two coins, one to show the face, the other the back.

Here is what happened to the collectors. The commission accepted their money. Then, after all were sold, sent most collectors back their money, saying that they had sold them all to natives, but the money sent back was not the original money orders and checks sent in, but checks from the commission drawn on a Providence national bank. Was the coin collectors' money used to send to the mint to get the coins?

I have seen a letter where this commission admits selling a dealer a greater number than was allotted to others, due to the fear that they would be unable to sell the entire 50,000.

In December, the Providence dealer criticizes the Columbia, S. C., commission for not properly distributing a small issue.

This Columbia, S. C., issue was coined in November to celebrate a 1-day exposition held in the previous January. The Columbia, S. C., sets, original price \$6.45, now \$15.

Last year the Cincinnati committee had 5,000 coins minted from each mint, or 15,000 in all. What was the result? You have three issues and a half dollar of any one of the issues now brings \$11.95.

The San Diego issue was authorized for 250,000 in 1935. The commission minted 250,000 at San Francisco in 1935 and returned 180,000 to be melted, and in 1936 minted 180,000 at Denver Mint, returning 150,000 to be melted. The price was changed three times. Originally it was \$1.50 for each half dollar and now the coins are selling for \$3 each.

After the facts were presented to the committee it was the opinion of the members the repeal of the old laws was justified.

COINAGE OF 50-CENT PIECES COMMEMORATING FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF TERMINATION OF THE WAR WITH SPAIN

APRIL 12, 1948.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WOLCOTT, from the Committee on Banking and Currency, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. J. Res. 333]

The Committee on Banking and Currency, to whom was referred the joint resolution (H. J. Res. 333) to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the termination of the war with Spain, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the joint resolution do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

This joint resolution would provide for the coinage of special 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the termination of the war with Spain. It would authorize the coinage of not to exceed 250,000 of said coins, to be of standard size, weight, and composition, and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Last year the Banking and Currency Committee made a detailed study of the whole question of issuance of commemorative coins. As a result of this study the committee recommended the adoption of a policy of limiting the issuance of commemorative coins to statehood centennial issues and stated that it would look with disfavor upon commemorative coin requests for any other purpose. It was recognized that there might be occasions which would call for an exception to this general policy but the committee believed that each such exception would have to stand on its own merits and be of such a nature that the event being commemorated was of true and genuine national interest.

The commemorative coin which would be authorized by this joint resolution is in nature an exception to the general policy of the committee adopted with respect to such commemorative coin issues. However, it presents an outstanding exception to the general policy

2 50-CENT PIECES COMMEMORATING END OF WAR WITH SPAIN

and the committee was of the opinion that it was proper and fitting to so recognize this request. The United Spanish War Veterans number among their membership approximately 70,000 of the remaining 117,000 veterans of the war with Spain. There are 50 United Spanish War Veterans organizations throughout the country and the outlying Territories. The average age of the members of the organizations is approximately 74 and it is estimated that approximately three-fourths of the men who volunteered to serve their country in the war with Spain have already passed to the Great Beyond. The United Spanish War Veterans was chartered by the Congress of the United States.

The former president of the United Spanish War Veterans organization stated before the committee that if this commemorative coin is authorized the retail price of the coin would likely be \$2, although he made it plain that he was without authority to state the exact figure which would be fixed as the retail price of the coin. Assuming a retail price of \$2, the organization would profit to the extent of \$1.50 on each coin sold, less the cost of design and other incidental expenses. The profit from the sale of these coins would be used by the organization in connection with the celebration this year of the fiftieth anniversary of the Spanish War and to instill in the American people a fuller understanding and appreciation of this important event in our national history. Any surplus that might remain after the celebration of this event would be used by the national headquarters of the organization to maintain fraternal activities among the members throughout the land.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL BY SECTIONS

Section 1 of the joint resolution would provide for the coinage of not to exceed 250,000 silver 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the war with Spain. These coins would be of standard size, weight, and composition, and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. However, the United States is not to be subject to the expense of making the necessary dies and other preparations for such coinage.

Section 2 of the joint resolution sets forth provisions relating to the issuance, payment, and disposition of the coins. The coins herein authorized would be issued in such numbers (not to exceed a total issue of 250,000) and at such times during the calendar years 1948 and 1949 as shall be requested by the United Spanish War Veterans. The coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium, and the net proceeds shall inure to the benefit of the United Spanish War Veterans organization. Coins herein authorized would bear the date of the year in which they are minted, would be legal tender to the amount of the face value, and would be issued only upon the request of a duly authorized representative of the United Spanish War Veterans, upon payment by such organization of the par value of such coins.

Section 3 of the joint resolution would make applicable to the coinage herein authorized all laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining and striking of the same insofar as they are applicable to the coinage herein authorized.

80TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 333

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 21 (legislative day, MARCH 29), 1948

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the termination of the War with Spain.

Whereas the year 1948 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the termination of the War with Spain; and

Whereas the valiant services of the volunteer members of the armed forces of the United States brought such armed conflict to a quick conclusion; and

Whereas three-fourths of the veterans of the War with Spain are now deceased; and

Whereas the surviving members of the United Spanish War Veterans, the only Nation-wide organization of veterans of the War with Spain, are having difficulty in financing their national organization in the future: Therefore be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the
- 4 termination of the War with Spain, there shall be coined not

1 to exceed two hundred and fifty thousand silver 50-cent
2 pieces of standard size, weight, and composition, and of a
3 special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the
4 Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury;
5 but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of
6 making the necessary dies and other preparations for such
7 coinage.

8 SEC. 2. The coins herein authorized shall bear the date
9 of the year in which they are minted, shall be legal tender
10 to the amount of their face value, and shall be issued only
11 upon the request of a duly authorized representative of the
12 United Spanish War Veterans, upon the payment by such
13 organization of the par value of such coins. Such coins shall
14 be issued in such numbers and at such times during the cal-
15 endar years 1948 and 1949 as shall be requested by the
16 United Spanish War Veterans and may be disposed of at
17 par or at a premium, and the net proceeds shall inure to
18 the benefit of such organization.

19 SEC. 3. All laws now in force relating to the subsidiary
20 silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking
21 of the same; regulating and guarding the process of coinage;
22 providing for the purchase of material, and for the transporta-
23 tion, distribution, and redemption of coins; for the preven-
24 tion of debasement or counterfeiting, for the security of the
25 coins, or for any other purpose, whether such laws are penal

- 1 or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage
- 2 herein authorized.

Passed the House of Representatives April 20, 1948.

Attest:

JOHN ANDREWS,

Clerk.

80TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 333

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in
commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary
of the termination of the War with Spain.

APRIL 21 (legislative day, MARCH 29), 1948

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Banking and Currency

[PUBLIC LAW 610—79TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 763—2D SESSION]

[H. R. 6528]

AN ACT

To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That to commemorate the life and perpetuate the ideals and teachings of Booker T. Washington, a great American, there shall be coined by the Director of the Mint not to exceed five million silver 50-cent pieces of standard size, weight, and fineness and of a special appropriate design to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury; but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the models for master dies or other preparations for this coinage.

SEC. 2. The coins herein authorized shall be issued at par, and only upon the request of the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial established at his birthplace in Franklin County, Virginia.

SEC. 3. Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by banks or trust companies selected by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Franklin County, Virginia, and all proceeds therefrom shall be used to purchase, construct, and maintain suitable memorials to the memory of Booker T. Washington, deceased, as may be decided upon by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial of Virginia.

SEC. 4. That all laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same; regulating and guarding the process of coinage; providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of the coins; for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting; for security of the coin; or for any other purposes, whether said laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein directed.

SEC. 5. The coins authorized herein shall be issued in such numbers, and at such times as shall be requested by the Booker T. Washington Birthplace Memorial and upon payment to the United States of the face value of such coins: *Provided*, That none of such coins shall be issued after the expiration of the five-year period immediately following the enactment of this Act.

Approved August 7, 1946.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1937

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Thy name's sake; deliver us and purge away our sins. Let Thy light break forth as the morning and let Thy righteousness go before Thee. Oh, let us hear the word of the Lord. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord and who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity nor sworn deceitfully. Heavenly Father, do Thou help us to live so earnestly and so nobly that we shall prove our title now to all our hopes and dreams. We entreat Thee, blessed Lord, to be graciously near our afflicted Members; may they lean on Thee for returning health and strength. Bless their fire-sides with good cheer. In the name of our Saviour. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. SNELL. Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER. For what purposes does the gentleman from New York rise?

Mr. SNELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to ask the majority leader what the program is going to be for today and tomorrow.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. RAYBURN. Mr. Speaker, answering the gentleman from New York, the program for today is a rule making in order the flood-control authorization bill.

Another matter that may come up today is an extension of an oil compact between certain States which has been reported out by the appropriate House committee.

Mr. SNELL. Is that a different bill from the oil bill we passed in the House a short while ago?

Mr. RAYBURN. The bill to which the gentleman from New York refers is known as the Connally-Dies hot-oil bill. State compacts extend for only 2 years. The matter to which I refer is simply the renewal of a compact. The Senate bill providing for the renewal is on the Speaker's table and I think probably the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. COLE] will ask unanimous consent to consider that bill this afternoon.

Tomorrow in all probability—and I see the chairman of the Rules Committee is here and also the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLAND]—there will be a rule providing for the consideration of the Panama Canal tolls bill.

Mr. O'CONNOR of New York. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RAYBURN. I yield.

Mr. O'CONNOR of New York. There will be a meeting of the Rules Committee at 2:30 this afternoon to pass on the Panama Canal tolls bill. So it may come up tomorrow.

Mr. SNELL. The gentleman thinks that is the entire program?

Mr. RAYBURN. That is the complete program for this week.

Mr. SNELL. Has the gentleman anything further to tell us about the general program? The report in the newspapers this morning is not very encouraging.

Mr. RAYBURN. I think the report in the newspapers is encouraging.

Mr. SNELL. I am glad to hear that.

Mr. RAYBURN. With the Senate passing the wage-and-hour bill today, which in all probability they will do, and with the House Committee on Labor saying that they can probably report it out the latter part of this week, certainly the first part of next week; with the housing bill in the Senate in all probability this week, the Senate reaching the court bill next week, and considering the legislative program announced in the papers this morning, unless there is a tie-up on the court bill in the Senate caused by something arising that would cause more debate than ordinary, we can finish all of this program within 3 weeks and feel certain that we can adjourn at that time and not be forced into a session between now and the 3rd of next January.

Mr. SNELL. I thank the gentleman for that information.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 2 minutes.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

(Mr. COCHRAN asked and received permission to revise and extend his own remarks in the RECORD.)

COMMEMORATIVE COIN RACKET

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. Speaker, recently I notified the Members of the House that in the very near future I proposed to address the House upon the subject of commemorative coins and the racket that has grown up as a result of their issuance. I also stated that I would present to you an argument which should prevent the passage of such measures for all time.

I have devoted a great deal of time and study to this subject and in an effort to cut off the further coinage and issuance of commemorative coins, I have drafted and have today introduced a bill (H.-R. 8036) to suspend the execution of commemorative coin acts. This bill will prohibit the further coinage and issuance of such coins under any act of Congress with three exceptions. In order to accomplish this, the bill specifically ratifies any refusal by the Director of the Mint to coin or issue any coins subsequent to the date of its introduction. It is drafted to cover all such acts and will give room to no possible complaint on the ground of discrimination. I have been advised that coins have been ordered and issued under every such authorizing act. The bill is worded so as not to affect those bills which recently were passed by the present Congress. In all fairness to the sponsors of those measures, it is my feeling, shared by other members of the Coinage Committee, that they should be afforded an opportunity to place their orders and receive their coins. In any event, those acts themselves contain express limitations as to time, that is, they expire 1 year from the date of their enactment, with the exception of the Texas Act.

Within recent months, I have thoroughly schooled myself in the undesirable practices which have grown up and the regretful use to which our coinage system has been put by so-called coin dealers. Indeed, the President of the United States, in several communications to the Congress has deplored the abuses and other ill effects resulting from the coinage of commemorative coins and strongly recommended

the consideration of legislation which would authorize the coinage of medals in lieu of coins, thus preserving inviolate the coinage system of the United States. I have talked to the President on several occasions concerning commemorative coins and I know he will welcome this legislation.

Congress, many years ago, being cognizant of the dangers and confusion which flow from a multiplicity of designs in our coins, wisely enacted section 3510 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which reads as follows:

* * * no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the first adoption of the design, model, die or hub for the same coin * * *

With the flood of commemorative coin authorizations, this statute, while still on the books, has in recent years been more honored in the breach than in the observance. I believe that in the enactment of section 3510, Congress enunciated a wise general public policy. Adherence to such a policy would have prevented the present abuses which result from numerous authorizations for the coinage of commemorative coins. The effect of such authorizations has been to encourage trafficking in such issues for private profit, to increase possibilities of counterfeiting, and in general, to detract from the fundamental purpose for which money is issued, namely, to provide a medium of exchange.

From 1892, when the first issue of commemorative new design half dollars was approved, through 1928, a period of 36 years, 18 new design half dollars were authorized. From 1934 to 1936, inclusive, a period of 3 years, 26 new half dollar coins were authorized. In other words, and I want to stress this fact, in the last 3 years we passed more commemorative coin bills than during the entire 36-year period from 1892 through 1928. Surely, this must end sometime and I think you will agree that that time has arrived.

Besides orders for new coins recently approved, continuing orders are received at the mints for coins authorized as far back as 10 years ago—mind you, coins are still being ordered under acts passed over 10 years ago. Under the terms of an act passed in 1926 (act of May 17, 1926, sec. 3, 44 Stat. 559), which authorized the issue of 6 million pieces, the mint is required to fill orders from the interested organization or, as a matter of fact, from a coin dealer, in any amount, large or small, and they may be called for at any time, until this vast quantity is absorbed or until the act is repealed or suspended. Annual orders of coins in situations like this naturally are small, since the fewer coins minted in a given year, the higher the price may go. The change of date each year or, in fact, the slightest change gives the coins a new status to collectors and dealers. This also applies to the minting of the same coin at each mint.

In 1933 one act (act of June 15, 1933, 48 Stat. 149) authorized the coinage of 1,500,000 pieces; in 1934 another (act of May 26, 1934, 48 Stat. 807) authorized the issue of 600,000 pieces; another act passed in 1934 (May 14, 1934, 48 Stat. 776) authorized the issue of 500,000 pieces; and a second act in 1936 for the same organization and commemorative purpose (June 26, 1936, 49 Stat. 1931) authorized an additional coinage of not less than 25,000 nor more than 50,000 pieces with the change of design on one side. One act passed in 1936 (act of May 15, 1936, 49 Stat. 1277) provides that the interested organization shall not take less than 25,000 pieces, leaving the case open for any number above that amount. Consequently, the organization can demand delivery of any number that it can pay for, provided that not less than 25,000 be ordered. It can issue coins forever unless this law is repealed.

By the act of May 3, 1935 (49 Stat. 174), a new coin was authorized for an exposition. The act authorized 250,000 pieces and the organization requested the entire number. At the close of the exposition 180,000 pieces, bearing date of 1935, were returned to the mint to be melted and additional legislation was enacted (act of May 6, 1936, 49 Stat. 1262) permitting the recoinage of the 180,000 pieces, bearing date of 1936.

By the act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1972), the issue of 200,000 coins, in commemoration of the opening of a bridge

was authorized. Only 100,000 coins were called for and of this amount 30,000 are now to be returned to the mint to be melted. The House passed a bill a few weeks ago to permit the additional 100,000 to be minted to commemorate another bridge in that vicinity.

The most casual review of these conditions will indicate the amount of special work imposed upon the already overburdened mints. Such special work diverts the use of machinery, manpower, and consumable supplies from regular channels of operation, when every facility of the mints is needed to meet the demands of the business of this country. Special commemorative orders affect every department of the mints from the engraving department, including intricate and exacting engraving and die cutting, down to the delivery department. Last year the mint had to displace regular coinage while the necessary facilities were being diverted to the manufacture of 734,464 pieces of this special interest coinage. The total coinage in 1926 amounted to about 315,000,000 pieces; coinage in 1936 amounted to about 723,000,000 pieces. The country's demands for coinage are being attempted to be met with the same number of mints now that were in use 27 years ago. It is frequently necessary, therefore, to operate the mints on a 24-hour basis for long periods.

Furthermore, it is believed by the Treasury Department that the ever-increasing issues of special coins is an unwarranted expense and burden to the Government and that some limitation should be put on the time and place for the consummation of such acts as are now on the statute books. It is true that the cost of preparing the models for these coins is borne by the interested organization and that the master dies are paid for by such organization, but the Government must be put to the expense of making working dies and manufacturing the coins. Here is a waste of capital invested in metals required thus diverted from regular coinage. There is, it is true, the seigniorage on the minting of such coins which accrues to the Government. However, the seigniorage, or its equivalent in amount, is gradually lost to the Government over a series of years when subsidiary coins are continuously returned to be melted. Thousands of commemorative coins are continuously returned to be melted. Thousands of commemorative coins which have remained unsold by special organizations, come back to be melted. The metallurgical loss which necessarily occurs in melting silver coins, and the abrasion, must be made up by the use of new silver when such coins are again remade into regular issues, and this is an expense to the Government. The manufacture of such coins requires that part of the rolling mills, counting machines, coinage presses and all other manufacturing equipment must be withdrawn from regular coinage and used on coinage for special interests. The cost of coinage is a charge against regular appropriations, and absorbs the funds granted for regular coinage.

FIVE 50-CENT PIECES BRING \$93

Another disturbing feature of this whole policy, which had developed in the last 2 years, is the appalling extent to which the coins have been exploited for private gain, when coins are intended to be made on Government account. One set of commemorative coins which the wording of the act permitted to be made at each mint, consisted of five types, all made in 1935; one from each mint, two bearing double dates and separate mint marks. This set of five pieces is advertised by a dealer for \$93 (five 50-cent pieces worth the face value of \$2.50). Another dealer offers two of these coins for \$100. Still another issue limited by the act to 15,000 pieces with provision for having them made at "the mints" is advertised at \$45 for three 50-cent pieces.

In all cases the coins are delivered by the mint to the agent named in the act. Practice on the part of the interested organizations appears to have grown up of delivering a large number of such coins to dealers for disposal to the public. There is no control over the charge which dealers may make. It is conceded that individuals may pay what they please for a coin, but attention is called to the fact that it is the intention of Congress when the coins are authorized that the pro-

ceeds of the sale of such coins at a reasonable profit, shall be applied to the cost of the celebration which they are intended to memorialize. When coins are gathered up by dealers and offered at such absurd premiums, the profits do not go to the organization but to individual merchants.

No country in the world permits such abuse of its coinage as has been permitted in this country. The practice of issuing commemorative coins is so entrenched that determined resistance seems called for. Every time the importunities of an organization for special coins are yielded to, the defense against the whole pernicious policy is weakened.

Upon a vigorous appeal having been made in 1927 before the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, when the bill was pending for the issue of the Bennington coin, the committee agreed to cooperate with the Treasury in discouraging the issue of special coins. The committee went on record, in its report on the Bennington coin, in the following terms:

The committee desires at this time to go on record as not favoring legislation of this class because of the great number of bills introduced to commemorate events of local and not national interest and because such quantities of the coins so authorized have had to be taken back by the Government, melted, and reminted.

In addition, the hearings of a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, of April 15, 1937, on the subject of commemorative coins generally, are enlightening. Senator Adams, as chairman of the subcommittee, stated as follows with respect to the issuance of such coins, page 8:

* * * For instance, in the case of the Oregon Trail * * * there was authorized the very large issue of 6,000,000 pieces of 50-cent coins. There were some issued in 1926, and some in 1928, and some in 1933, and some in 1934, and some in 1936, and some in 1937. And they had them issued in some of those years from two mints at a time.

Now, there isn't a market in the country for any very large number of any particular issue of commemorative coins. But whenever they have a new mint mark, or a new date, they reopen the market for the coin collector. It becomes, not as some members of the committee, or some Senators, may think, only a matter of commemoration. If we issued a coin to commemorate an event, that was one thing. But when we open the way to the coin dealer to perpetrate a racket we have felt the United States Government was lending itself to a petty thing, and not in furtherance really of commemoration. And we believe there are many instances showing the possibility of this thing. For instance, while I do not want to draw any invidious comparisons, yet I will refer to S. 1268, now before this committee, which is to authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the changing of the name of Sawpit to the village of Port Chester, N. Y.

I intend to enumerate some specific instances which I am sure will convince every member of Congress this bill should be passed and sent to the President for his signature without delay.

I gathered this information from the Treasury Department and from coin collectors. There is a distinction between coin collectors and coin distributors. The collector must pay what the distributor asks.

THE OREGON TRAIL COMMEMORATIVE COIN

In 1926 the Oregon Trail memorial half dollar was authorized for a coinage not to exceed 6,000,000 pieces. In the same year there were coined first 48,000 pieces from the Philadelphia Mint and then 100,000 pieces from the San Francisco Mint. Being coined at different mints they are classed as separate coins by coin collectors.

Out of the 48,000 Philadelphia pieces, 17,000 were remelted. In 1928, the Oregon Trail Commission asked that there be coined at the San Francisco Mint 50,000 more pieces. The Commission, however, failed to call for them, and they were left in the mint until April of 1933. Undoubtedly it was because of this, that Mr. Hoover, then President of the United States, vetoed all coin bills presented. The President could veto bills but he could not repeal this law and more were issued.

At that time in 1933, 44,000 of the 50,000 were remelted, leaving a limited issue of only 6,000. These were offered for sale by a coin and stamp distributor of New York, who at the

same time advertised "Sole distributors of the Oregon Trail commemorative half dollars." At the same time, this company announced that there would be available 5,250, 1933 Denver Mint half dollars. One year later, in September of 1934, this company announced 7,000 Denver Mint 1934 coins.

In April of 1936, this same company announced 5,000 San Francisco Mint half dollars, saying then there would be no more from that mint in that year. Later 10,000 were issued at the Philadelphia Mint, and these were not advertised publicly, but to their customers by mail.

In February this year, there were coined 12,000 at the Denver Mint, and it seems that the commission finally woke up to the fact that they themselves could make some money off the poor coin collector. They are distributing them themselves.

Thus we have 8 issues in 11 years, all commemorating the Oregon Trail, the only difference being the date and mint mark, but coin collectors must buy all. Here are the issues:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Re-melted	Left	Original price	Price now
1926	48,000	Philadelphia	17,000	31,000	\$1.00	\$1.35
1926	100,000	San Francisco		100,000	1.00	1.35
1928	50,000	do.	44,000	6,000	2.00	5.25
1933	5,250	Denver		5,250	1.50	9.75
1934	7,000	do.		7,000	2.00	5.00
1936	5,000	San Francisco		5,000	1.65	9.00
1936	10,000	Philadelphia		10,000	1.65	4.50
1937	12,000	Denver		12,000	1.60	1.60
	237,250		61,000	176,250	12.40	37.80

The 1937 half dollar is still being distributed by the Commission.

At the rate these coins are being minted, we will have Oregon Trail coins for the next 300 years, unless Congress repeals this law.

THE TEXAS CENTENNIAL

The Texas Centennial was held in 1936 but has been continued this year. In 1934 their bill was passed authorizing the issuance of 1,500,000 pieces. In that year, they had coined at Philadelphia, 205,000 pieces. No doubt they are still obtainable from the Commission. In 1935 they had coined at each of the three mints, 10,000. The small number raised the price from \$1 to \$1.50. Again in 1936, 10,000 from each mint. A notice has just appeared in a local paper that they expect to have their 1937 coins available shortly.

The coins can be issued until the full 1,500,000 pieces are exhausted unless the law is repealed. Here are the issues so far for the Texas Centennial:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Price now
1934	205,000	Philadelphia	\$1.00	\$1.10
1935	10,000	do.	1.50	1.85
1935	10,000	San Francisco	1.50	1.85
1935	10,000	Denver	1.50	1.85
1936	10,000	Philadelphia	1.50	1.75
1936	10,000	San Francisco	1.50	1.75
1936	10,000	Denver	1.50	1.75
1937	8,000	Philadelphia		
1937	8,000	San Francisco		
1937	8,000	Denver		
	289,000		10.00	11.90

The total coined to date is 289,000 out of an authorized 1,500,000. The price on the 1937 coins is not available as they have not been distributed but will be in a few weeks.

It is but proper to state that the money raised from the sale of commemorative coins under the Texas act is being used entirely for the purpose of constructing a memorial building on the grounds of the Texas University. This building is partly completed, \$300,000 of the amount appropriated by Congress to celebrate the centennial being used to start the structure. The board of regents of the university supervise the distribution of the coins.

THE DANIEL BOONE BICENTENNIAL

This law has developed into a racket, the extent of which no one dreamed of. The Daniel Boone Bicentennial Act

authorized 600,000 pieces in 1934. That year they coined 10,000 at the Philadelphia Mint. In 1935, 10,000 from the Philadelphia Mint and 5,000 from each of the other mints. Keep in mind each half dollar has a special value—the smaller the issue the greater the graft.

It was about this time that the groaning and muttering of the coin collectors, who were footing the bill, began to be heard. They protested that the coins were being issued from year to year with no change except date and mint. In other words, they did not even go to the expense in changing the design, which would have been the honorable thing to do at least, but they simply changed the date, pocketing the cost of the new design. Was it any reason the coin collectors complained?

Mr. Dunn, the distributor of this Daniel Boone half dollar, took it upon himself to issue what he termed a "bonus issue" of 2,000 from each of the western mints. He claimed these were only for those who had stuck with him, by ordering all of the previous issues. But the worst is yet to come. The coins were issued but not all distributed. Coin collectors have always defied this distributor to produce a list of 2,000 names of the people who got these sets. I have heard the cost of this issue is now about \$100.

In December of 1934 Mr. Dunn claims to have assigned all the entire issue, yet there is a case of distribution late in April of the next year by him. In July of 1936, this same distributor offered a set of these rare coins to anyone who would purchase 500 of the 1936 Philadelphia coins for \$510, express collect. In the same advertisement he says, "From some sets—as far as they go—made available to the Daniel Boone Bi-Centennial Commission approved by Congress." Evidently he was trying to deceive the collectors into believing that more had been coined.

In 1936 there were coined at Philadelphia 10,000, and then 5,000 from each of the branch mints. Now Mrs. Dunn, his wife, advertises 15,000, 1937 coins from the Philadelphia Mint.

Late in 1935, we have Mr. Dunn's word that he wanted to sell only 300,000 more coins, and now it is stated they expect to continue for 5 years! My bill will end his racket.

The issues under this act follows:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Present approximate price
1934	10,000	Philadelphia	\$1.60+	\$3.50
1935	10,000	do	1.10	3.00
1935	5,000	San Francisco	1.60+	5.00
1935	5,000	Denver	1.60+	5.00
1935-34	10,000	Philadelphia	1.10	2.75
1935-34	2,000	San Francisco	3.70	65.00
1935-34	2,000	Denver	3.70	65.00
1936-34	12,000	Philadelphia	1.10	1.35
1936-34	5,000	Denver	1.60	5.00
1936-34	5,000	San Francisco	1.60	5.00
1937-34	7,500	Philadelphia	1.60	2.50
1937-34	3,750	Denver	1.60	7.50
1937-34	7,500	San Francisco	1.60	5.50
	84,750		19.80	176.65

A total of 13 coins, the only difference being the date and mint. Remember coin collectors are like stamp collectors, they must buy each issue. Take the issue of 3,750 coins just ordered from the Denver Mint. It was bad enough to place an order for 7,500 at San Francisco and Philadelphia, but the Denver coin will net Mr. Dunn thousands of dollars in profit. Who are the suckers? The poor coin collectors who must buy to complete their collections. While the price quoted is announced in advertisement, coin collectors tell me the 3,500 issue will surely bring around \$50. They say try and buy them for \$7.50. Are we to permit this? My bill will stop it if enacted at once.

THE ARKANSAS COINS

Arkansas secured a late start, but they are evidently making up for lost time. The act authorized 500,000 in 1935. The first were coined at the Philadelphia Mint, 10,000. Then they began to get more orders than they had coins. I understand they consulted a coin dealer and acting on his advice,

coined an additional 3,000 at the Philadelphia mint and 5,500 at each of the branch mints. This dealer later admits having practically complete control of the branch minted coins. These coins were originally sold by the Commission at \$1, but very few collectors got the branch mint coins. The dealer immediately raised the price to \$2.75 each.

In 1936 they coined 10,000 from each of the mints. Then it seems they had some difficulty in selling them all, according to the wording of their advertisements, and so they reduced their price to \$1.50 from \$2. After these were coined, a bill to authorize three new reverses was introduced which would have meant nine more coins. Fortunately it was amended to only one new reverse.

Twenty-five thousand of these were coined, and distributed only by a New York dealer who set the price at \$1.85 plus postage, whereas the commission only charged \$1.50. And now, notices are being sent out by this same dealer that they will have shortly a 5,000 set issue from the three mints of 1937. And they have set the price at \$8.75. At the same time this coin dealer advertises "Exclusive distributors of the Arkansas half dollars."

The coins so far issued for Arkansas follows:

Year	Number coined	Mint	Original price	Present approximate price
1935	13,000	Philadelphia	\$1.00	\$2.75
1935	5,500	San Francisco	1.00	5.00
1935	5,500	Denver	1.00	5.00
1936	10,000	Philadelphia	1.50	1.95
1936	10,000	Denver	1.50	1.95
1936	10,000	San Francisco	1.50	1.95
1936 (Joe Robt)	25,000	Philadelphia	1.85	3.50
1937	5,000	do	4.40	4.40
1937	5,000	Denver	4.40	4.40
1937	5,000	San Francisco	9.35	21.60
	94,000			

The authorization is for 500,000 coins and they can go on until that number is minted unless we repeal the law.

Thus in the above-mentioned cases, instead of only 4 coins, 39 were issued or have been ordered and only 667,250 out of an authorized 8,650,000. There is nothing to prevent them from issuing the balance of nearly 8,000,000 unless we repeal the laws. Is Congress going to sit quiet and let this racket continue? The commissions are probably out of existence, the celebrations have been held, but there was nothing in the law to prevent the turning over of the additional number to coin dealers who are working the racket and reaping a harvest.

SMALL ISSUES AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION

In 1935 a Hudson, New York, issue was authorized for 10,000 pieces. Coined in June 1935, delivered to the commission on June 28, and all sold out July 2 with their advertisement appearing about July 6. They were sold to dealers in large blocks, and it is whispered that one New York dealer, secured the most of them. The price was immediately raised by these dealers. The original price was \$1; the present price, \$7.50.

Providence, R. I., authorized the coinage of 50,000. Surely this appears plenty for all who wanted them. Yet they were never advertised for sale by the original commission. There was a description of the coin published in February of 1936. At the time there was an advertisement by a shop in Providence offering to secure the coins for the collectors at \$1.50, although the collectors who had already written to the commission were informed that they would be available at \$1 each.

The commission began accepting money from collectors as early as November of 1935. They coined 20,000 from the Philadelphia Mint and 15,000 from each of the branch mints.

Then in April it was announced they had sold out in 6 hours. The astonishing part of it is in the entire State of Rhode Island there were only five members of the American Numismatic Association, which is the largest organization of coin collectors in the United States.

Where did all the coins go? This Providence dealer immediately raised his price to \$7.50 a set, and the next month raised it to \$9. He admitted securing 11,500 for orders that he had, then later offered 50 sets to trade and 25 to sell, and I have seen a letter over his signature wherein he admits selling another 500 sets to dealers. A set is two coins, one to show the face, the other the back.

Here is what happened to the collectors. The Commission accepted their money. Then, after all were sold, sent most collectors back their money, saying that they had sold them all to natives, but the money sent back was not the original money orders and checks sent in, but checks from the Commission drawn on a Providence national bank. Was the coin collectors' money used to send to the mint to get the coins?

I have seen a letter where this Commission admits selling a dealer a greater number than was allotted to others, due to the fear that they would be unable to sell the entire 50,000.

In December, the Providence dealer criticizes the Columbia, S. C., commission for not properly distributing a small issue.

This Columbia, S. C., issue was coined in November to celebrate a 1-day exposition held in the previous January. The Columbia, S. C., sets, original price \$6.45, now \$15.

Last year the Cincinnati committee had 5,000 coins minted from each mint, or 15,000 in all. What was the result? You have three issues and a half dollar of any one of the issues now brings \$11.95.

The San Diego issue was authorized for 250,000 in 1935. The commission minted 250,000 at San Francisco in 1935 and returned 180,000 to be melted, and in 1936 minted 180,000 at Denver Mint, returning 150,000 to be melted. The price was changed three times. Originally it was \$1.50 for each half dollar and now the coins are selling for \$3 each.

EIGHTY-ONE NEW BILLS PENDING

What is the situation that confronts the Congress today? Since this session convened in January there has been introduced in the House and Senate 81 bills which provide for the issuing of commemorative coins. If we are justified in passing one we are justified in passing the others so you can realize for yourself what is going to happen in the future if the Congress continues the policy it has adopted in the past, and enacts such legislation into law.

Feeling I have supplied sufficient information to justify the repeal of the old laws I will not burden you further, but there are many more cases that can be cited showing beyond question where the coins were issued and distributed, not for the purpose of really commemorating an event, but for the purpose, not only to defray the cost of the various celebrations, but to enable coin distributors to practically fleece the public.

Mr. RICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 2 minutes.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Rich]?

There was no objection.

(Mr. Rich asked and was given permission to revise and extend his own remarks in the Record.)

Mr. RICH. Mr. Speaker, in 1934 Jim Farley, Democratic National Chairman, said in Utah that the present administration was the most economic administration this country ever had. Laugh that off as the biggest joke of the past 6 years.

Speaking of the present administration, may I say that in the year 1934 we went in the red over \$4,000,000,000? Yesterday, July 28, at Salem, Ill., James Farley, the Postmaster General, said the depression had been wiped out by the present administration. He forgot to mention the fact that the country has been burdened with an exorbitant debt of \$18,000,000,000 for this joy ride, which your children, your grandchildren, and some other grandchildren will have to pay sometime. Last year we went in the red \$3,000,000,000. Our national debt is over \$36,657,635,000 on July 27 as per the Treasury statement. Oh, Mr. Speaker, Jim Farley did not mention that the bill is yet to be paid.

Mr. Speaker, there is something wrong with James Farley. He does not know what he is talking about. There is something wrong with this Congress, because it does not know what it is doing; or there is something wrong with the President of the United States, because he does not know what it is all about or where he is leading you.

If you will look at the statement of July 22 and compare the receipts with the expenditures you will see we have gone in the red for the first 22 days of this year over \$5,694,000, a day more than we went in the red last year. Remember, more each day, more each day, than you went in the red last year. It is appalling in the light of the statement by the President that he would have a balanced budget this year. If we went in the red last year \$3,000,000,000, where in the world are you Democrats taking this country? You certainly are giving us a joy ride. The wreck will come later from this insane method of doing things.

When James Farley makes the statement he has made, he is only thinking of one thing, and that is the political aspect. He is not thinking of where this Nation is being led up to the precipice for a great fall. If you do not watch out you are going to wreck this Nation and do that very soon. I advise you to be more vigilant in your spending, get down to a sane, judicial, sensible administration of Government expenditures. Jim Farley does not know what the word "economy" means. The Jeffersonian Democrats should advise him, if there are any of them left in Congress. The New Deal, I am sure, does not know what economy in government means.

[Here the gavel fell.]

Mr. MAVERICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 2 minutes.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. MAVERICK. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a House resolution for the investigation of the W. P. A. Of course, every one knows I am friendly to the W. P. A. and Harry Hopkins.

But every year when the appropriation for the W. P. A. is taken up in this House, Mr. Harry Hopkins is denounced for about 2 months beforehand. We have a long controversy and waste a lot of time; then we go ahead and pass the bill and turn over one and a half or two billion dollars to be spent as he sees fit.

Besides the House resolution, I have introduced a bill providing for the appointment of an unemployment commission, to be composed of 12 members, appointed by the President of the United States. The commission is to consist of three Senators, three Representatives, and six citizens. This bill is now before the Labor Committee. They have promised hearings; I hope the bill is reported out, that we get a rule, and it is adopted.

This commission is directed to make a report at the beginning of next year. We would then know what we were doing and could, moreover, fix the permanent policies and create a standing committee on Public Works and Welfare, on which I have also introduced a House resolution.

Mr. O'CONNOR of New York. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MAVERICK. I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York.

Mr. O'CONNOR of New York. Has not the Senate authorized the appointment of a committee to investigate that subject?

Mr. MAVERICK. Yes; the gentleman is correct. In fact, the Senate has authorized two committees, one just a Senate committee, the other an unemployment commission, but the House has not done anything. The unemployment commission is my bill, and on which I have also introduced a similar bill, already mentioned.

That Senate bill is now pending before the Labor Committee in the House, along with my bill, one by Mr. Voorhis, but none has so far been acted on. I believe if we would create this unemployment commission now, next year we could establish some permanent policy in connection with

the question of relief, unemployment, social security, and old-age pensions. That is a very important thing, in which I hope the Republicans will join.

Mr. SNELL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MAVERICK. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. SNELL. The gentleman has had the same experience with the Rules Committee I have had. I introduced a resolution 2 weeks ago to investigate the sale of the President's Democratic Handbook. I would like to join with the gentleman from Texas and see if we cannot get both of our resolutions reported.

Mr. MAVERICK. I do not think an investigation of the Democratic Handbook is quite as important; but seriously, the questions I present are of the greatest importance to the people of this country. This is simply congressional policy—common sense—and whether we agree on other subjects, it seems we could agree on this.

Whatever our ideas or opinions, we certainly ought to know what we are doing on relief—how and why we are spending the money. Such matters have no congressional committees of any kind now, and I believe any member of any political party can vote for this conscientiously and be doing an intelligent and patriotic thing.

[Here the gavel fell.]

(Mr. MAVERICK asked and was given permission to revise and extend his own remarks in the RECORD.)

Mr. DICKSTEIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 2 minutes.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

(Mr. DICKSTEIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his own remarks in the RECORD.)

Mr. DICKSTEIN. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the Members were kind enough to listen to me on an exposure of subversive and un-American activities in the United States. During my discussion I pleaded with you to support the Dies resolution, which provides for a proper and thorough cleaning of house in the United States as far as all these groups are concerned.

At that time I listed about 46 agitators, spies, dopes, aliens, smugglers, and everything else. I promised the country a second list; and I ask unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, that I may insert in the RECORD a list of about 17 more of these smugglers, alien agitators, Hitlerites, and propagandists who are seeking to undermine this Government in one way or another, to substitute their form of propaganda in order to disturb our American people, to breed intolerance, and to array one American against another.

I think it will be very interesting to see the names of those who are connected with this movement, and I may say it is becoming worse and worse every day. The German Reich in yesterday's newspapers did not deny the charges I have made, but it suddenly found out that I was Jewish, and it wants the American people not to believe my charges. It does not deny a single fact or statement made by me on the floor of the House or in other public places.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to incorporate the names to which I referred in my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. DICKSTEIN. The following is an additional list of people who are seeking to destroy our democratic form of government. Their propaganda is being spread not only throughout the United States but throughout the world.

Severin Winterscheidt, representing the German Ministry of Propaganda sworn in at Erlangen, Germany, September 18, 1936, by Julius Streicher. Lives at 267 St. Nicholas Avenue, Brooklyn; is an alien. He is the only one with a complete list of German representatives in the United States. Works directly with the Weckruf & Beobachter and speaks on meeting.

Carl Lange, also at 267 St. Nicholas Avenue, Brooklyn. He is the representative of the Alfred Rosenberg Pagan

Movement in the United States, who actually receives a salary of the Edda Bund, the local of the Rosenberg movement in the United States. A good speaker, he collects dues to be transferred on German ships to Germany; \$1 per month, membership about 4,000 in the States. Particularly interested in smashing Free Masonry in the United States.

Carl Kienzle, West New York, N. J.; employed at the North German Lloyd but actually carrier of propaganda material from and to ships; has passes on every railroad in the States, Canada, and Mexico, and the only one to be the actual go-between in matters of Bund and Captain Mensing.

C. K. Froehlich, also with the North German Lloyd; representing all German societies in the United States who actually have become directly connected with the Nazi Party in Germany; averages 8 or 10 trips to Germany annually but never pays fare or uses a passport; an American citizen. Finances are always very good with him.

Dietrich Worthmann, New York Turnverein president and also a member of the A. A. U., working directly under the Propaganda Ministry of Germany; responsible for the participation of the United States of America at the past Olympics; carries out instructions of Captain Mensing; an American citizen.

Capt. H. Rehm, of the North German Lloyd, representing Mr. Schulze; only member of the S. A. in the United States of America. Mr. Schulze is military attaché of the German embassy in Washington; particular work is to get military secrets out of the United States.

Guenther Orgell, Staten Island, representing the West Deutscher Beobachter in the United States of America; sort of liaison officer between the party and Government officials in the United States of America; also at the present active for the election of Senator COPELAND.

C. Hinrichsmeyer (alias Ullrich) now in the United States of America in charge of publicity of the propaganda ministry—cartoons, and so forth—supposed to get forged documents from Captain Mensing; staying at either the Barizon Plaza or with Vice Consul Dr. Draeger.

Dr. Zimmerer, of Hanover, Germany; here on a lecture tour making anti-Semitic speeches in particular; was the one who reorganized the Friends of the New Germany in January last year.

August Klapproth, Jersey City, N. J., at 1158 Bergenline Avenue. District leader for the State of New Jersey and director of the Camp Nordland in Andover. Citizen. Morally irresponsible; has, as a matter of fact, been arrested on a moral charge. New Jersey.

Ernst Mueller, 16-28 Himrod Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Local leader of Brooklyn and camp director of Camp Siegfried. Importer of German clocks and watches. Very active in the boycott of Jews. Citizen of the United States of America.

George Nebbe, Staten Island leader, friend of Mr. Orgell and Colonel Emerson. Liaison officer for the consulate. Living in a common-law marriage.

Emil Ebner, 1627 Second Avenue, New York City. Representing the Nord Deutsch Hefe Industrie of Germany, importing yeast. Mr. Ebner was arrested as an Aryan on a moral charge with a Negro woman of Newark, N. J., and fined \$100, which the bund paid in February 1935. Mr. Ebner carried the proceeds of a no. 3200 on a celebration of Hitler's advent to power to Germany and was personally rewarded by Hitler. A personal friend of Julius Streicher.

The following radio announcers conduct German programs in the United States where German consuls and visitors of the German Government are allowed to speak freely: Elsie Maria Troja, WBNX; Herbert Oedgen, WBNX; John Veistel, WFAB; Otto Veller, WHOM; Hans Muennz, WBBC; Helmut Wessels, WWRL.

H. von Boeckmann, representing the German broadcasting units in the United States, furnishes the above announcers with the material to be used weekly. Lobbying for sale of helium gas to Germany.

Dr. Curt Sell, Washington, D. C., also representing the radio units, and lobbyist for German industries. Very popu-